

REMARKS

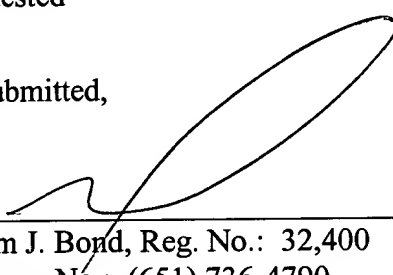
Claims 9 to 16 are pending. Claims 1 to 8 have been canceled. Claims 13 to 16 are amended.

Re-examination and reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. The rejection is based on the Japanese application HEI 10-15304 is respectfully traversed. This patent document was published on January 20, 1998 and as such was subsequent to the priority filing date to the present application, which relates to Japanese patent application filed on December 5, 1997. Applicants have submitted herewith a verified statement of the accuracy of the English translation of the certified priority document Appln. No. 9-335451, which predates the publication date of the 10-15304 reference. Applicants further submit herewith a terminal disclaimer relative to US Patent No. 6,533,119.

In view of the above further and favorable action in the form of a notice of allowance is believed to be in order and such as respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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